MADISON, Wis. – May 14, 2010 – The University of Alabama Center for Community-Based Partnerships has honored University of Wisconsin-Extension Provost and Vice Chancellor Christine J. Quinn with an award for Distinguished Special Achievement in the Leadership and Scholarship of Community Engagement.

The award was presented at the center’s April 23, 2010 awards program, for which Provost Quinn presented the keynote address about UW-Extension partnerships to attract young people to small towns and rural communities, improve health care for farm families, grow entrepreneurs and support sustainable communities including through locally produced renewable energy.

“We were so pleased to have Dr. Quinn on our campus,” says Samory T. Pruitt, vice president for community affairs at the University of Alabama and executive director of the Center for Community-Based Partnerships. “Her leadership role nationally in the scholarship of engagement made her an ideal choice for this award, and her comments as our keynote speaker were insightful and challenging for the leaders in engagement scholarship in Alabama.”

The award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated sustained, distinguished and superb achievement in public service and engagement in community-based partnership efforts and has made outstanding contributions that improve the quality of life in communities nationally or internationally. The award is given annually to a person whose work goes “above and beyond” in support of community-based partnership projects or whose work demonstrates superior understanding, appreciation and support of community-based partnership efforts. Traditionally, leaders in academe who have distinguished themselves in the area of public service and engagement scholarship have been recognized with this award.
The award honoring Quinn was the fourth such award presented by The University of Alabama Center for Community-Based Partnerships.

As provost and vice chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Extension since October 2008, Quinn serves both as chief academic officer and chief operations officer. She oversees the educational programming in the institution's four divisions: Broadcasting and Media Innovations, which includes the statewide networks of Wisconsin Public Television and Wisconsin Public Radio; Continuing Education, Outreach and E-Learning, which delivers programs via the 26 UW System campuses and distance-learning channels; Cooperative Extension, which has offices in 72 Wisconsin counties and three tribal nations; and Entrepreneurship and Economic Development, which includes 12 Small Business Development Centers. In addition, she is responsible for building and supporting collaborative programs among divisions of UW-Extension and with other UW System institutions — especially UW Colleges — and other key partners of UW-Extension.

Quinn earned her bachelor and master’s degrees at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and her doctorate at the University of Minnesota. She has more than 20 years of experience in public higher education, including administration, teaching, research, grants writing, and outreach and extension.

A high resolution photo is available at: http://photos.uwex.edu/index.cfm (enter Quinn in the keyword search).

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